

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of October 4, 2004**

1. **Street Restoration (Ward 2):** Concrete curb and gutter replacement has been completed on Cherry Avenue. Several stormwater issues were identified while doing the work and are being addressed. The next streets we plan to address before the end of the season are Devonshire Avenue and Central Avenue. The concrete work and stormwater work will occur first and then the streets will be milled and paved. *(Public Works)*
2. **Crosswalk Installation (Ward 4):** Durotherm crosswalk installation on Maple Avenue at Sherman Ave., Ritchie Ave. and Lincoln Ave is scheduled for 10/13 9:30 to 12. *(Public Works)*
3. **Computer and Electronic Recycling Event:** The computer and electronics recycling event collected a total of 22,290 pounds of materials, significantly more than was expected for a City our size. By weight the collection broke down into the following categories: 36% computer monitors, 22% CPU's, 9% televisions, 5% printers, 28% other. The program cost just under \$3,000, the City's share of the expense will be \$770. PW is exploring ways to continue the program now that State cost share funds have been cancelled. *(Public Works)*
4. **Capacity Building Program (Ward 3):** Tenants from 251 Manor Circle (7 units) contacted our office this week to discuss their rights under the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase law. Although they haven't yet received official notification, it appears this property will be placed on the market (Sale Price: \$499,000) The tenants are forming an association and will be expressing their interest in purchasing the property. Referral has been made to the city's capacity builders. *(Housing and Community Development)*
5. **Affordable Housing (City-wide):** The Montgomery County Housing Fair, held on October 2, was an overwhelming success. There were approximately 1,500 attendees who were able to obtain information from the Housing Opportunities Commission, HUD, mortgage lenders and banks, and real estate agents regarding home buying in Montgomery County. There was a drawing at the end of fair, which gave 3 lucky attendees \$500 toward their rent or mortgage. A resident of Takoma Park won one of these prizes. *(Housing and Community Development)*
6. **Laurel Avenue Streetscape (Ward 1):** Construction of streetscape improvements on Laurel Avenue has been postponed until the late winter or early spring. The exact start date of construction will depend on the weather. Construction had been planned to take place this fall but the schedule has been changed in response to concerns from businesses about interference with the holiday shopping season. Contact Ilona Blanchard at 301-891-7205 or ilonab@takomagov.org with any questions. *(Housing and Community Development)*
7. **Carroll Avenue Streetscape (Ward 1):** Construction for the residential and commercial sections along Carroll Avenue is planned to begin in the late winter or early spring. The exact start date of construction will depend on the weather. Contact Ilona

Blanchard at 301-891-7205 or ilonab@takomagov.org with any questions. (*Housing and Community Development*)

8. **Metropolitan Branch Trail (Ward 1):** When the Takoma Park section of the Metropolitan Branch Trail was constructed, there were not enough funds available to build a proposed boardwalk; instead, a temporary stone dust trail was installed. The Montgomery County Council allocated \$80,000 in this year's capital budget to help the City complete this section of the trail. A community meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, October 14 at 6 PM to receive input on how these funds might be best used. The meeting will take place in the pavilion in Jequie Park. Contact Rob Inerfeld at 301-891-7219 or roberti@takomagov.org with any questions. (*Housing and Community Development*)

9. **Gateway and Wayfinding Signage Community Forum (City-Wide):** The community forum for the gateway and wayfinding signage system is scheduled for Tuesday, October 26 at 7 PM. The forum will take place in the Montgomery College student lounge which is located in the Commons Building at New York and Takoma Avenues. Parking is available in the College's parking garage on Fenton Street. This is the best opportunity for residents to provide input into the design of the signage system. Contact Rob Inerfeld at 301-891-7219 or roberti@takomagov.org with any questions. (*Housing and Community Development*)

10. **Educational Campaign (Ward 6):** Officers from Takoma Park and both counties participated with volunteer students from CUC and C-SAFE staff in a pedestrian safety educational campaign on Wednesday at University Blvd. and New Hampshire Ave. (*Police*)

11. **Hot Car (Wards 2 & 6):** The COP Team took the Maryland Hot Car, an auto-theft deterrence demonstrator, to five locations in the City, Oct. 2-4. (Wards 2-6). Coverage of the events was carried on two Spanish language cable stations and Live at 5 on NBC4. (*Police*)

12. **Chiefs of Police Meeting (Wards 5 & 6; All Wards):** Chief Creamer and Lt. Cipperly will be attending the Maryland Chiefs of Police meeting in Ocean City next week. Chief Creamer met Monday with Montgomery County representatives to discuss a proposal to address public drinking issues. She and Ofc. Smith (COP Team, V Sector) met with TPMS staff to consider public safety issues related to the Middle School. (*Police*)

13. **Officers in Training:** The second section of in-service training, Thursday at Heffner for remaining officers, included practice of new handcuffing techniques (see attachment). (*Police*)

14. **Police Recruiting:** On Thursday, Cpl. Jackson presented recruiting information at the Baltimore Housing Police Department, which is being disbanded. Several certified

officers from that agency will participate in the entry level testing for TPPD in the coming week. *(Police)*

15. **Arrests:**

1- (Wards 1, 6) Cpl. John obtained warrants for the arrest of a D.C. man related to the Sept. 23rd robbery of a Carroll Avenue shop and its customers and an Oct. 3rd robbery of a New Hampshire Avenue business. While investigating commercial robberies in the City and making routine consultation with neighboring agencies, TPPD investigators developed the suspect, who was picked up by DC police on an unrelated warrant. After interviews and investigation, the man will be charged with six counts for two robberies in the City and has been charged with five robberies in the District.

2 - Det. Webb on Wednesday served a warrant for a fourth-degree sex offense.

3 - **(Wards 2, 3, & 6)** Arrests this week by patrol officers include two for possession of drugs and paraphernalia subsequent to a traffic stop; an arrest and seizure of a loaded handgun subsequent to a traffic stop; and four citations for public alcohol violations. Two subjects were arrested 9/29/04 for drug and paraphernalia possession. A K-9 unit provided mutual aid to Montgomery County resulting in two arrests for drug possession. *(Police)*

16. **Planning Board Meeting:** Mayor Porter, Councilmember Elrich and a number of citizens testified at Thursday's Planning Board meeting opposing a draft zoning text amendment to change the process hospitals would go through if they want to expand. Concern was also expressed by residents near Suburban Hospital. The Planning Board did not vote on whether or not the draft text amendment should be transmitted to the County Council for introduction for consideration. Three of the five members expressed some concern about the text amendment language. A revised version of the text amendment may come up again as soon as two weeks from now. Park and Planning staff will be meeting to discuss possible revisions or other approaches based on the public comments. *(Community & Government Liaison)*

17. **Purple Line:** Public open house meetings regarding the Bi-County Transitway (Purple Line) will be held in November. Each open house meeting will run from 4-8 pm. The first meeting will be Nov. 8 at the Langley Park Community Center at 15th and Merrimac Streets. A Silver Spring meeting will be Nov. 15 at the Gwendolyn Coffield Recreation Center on Lyttons ville Road. *(Community & Government Liaison)*

